The Texas Stamp.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

VOL. I. FORT WORTH, TEXAS, JUNE, 1887. No. 6.

BEGINNING A STAMP COLLECTION.

SECOND ARTICLE.

As your stock of duplicates increase you will wish to increase the circle of your exchange acquaintances, and one way to do this will be by means of the addresses given in the exchange columns of the different stamp papers. Exercise a care, however, about sending valuable stamps to strangers, else you may be taken in and mourn the loss of your treasures.

The best way to prepare stamps for exchange is to mount them carefully on sheets, the same as approval sheets sent out by dealers are put up, by means of gummed hinges. The blank sheets can be bought of most dealers at from 5 to 10 cents per dozen, but you can easily rule blank paper yourself, and it will answer just as well.

Before mounting your stamps on the sheet, carefully soak off the paper on the back, and in pricing the stamps use the prices quoted in whichever catalogue you se[illegible] as your standard. If the collector you exchange with uses the same catalogue for pricing, it is clear that there will then be no difficulty in making a fair exchange, for a two cent stamp from your sheet will be the exact equivalent of a two cent stamp from his sheet.

As was intimated above, care must be taken in arranging an exchange, for, if truth is told, all collectors are not reliable and honest. "There are black sheep in every flock," so the old saying goes, and some collectors do not hesitate to substitute stamps on sheets, taking off valuable ones and putting cheap ones in their places, and sometimes a collector will make an outright theft of a sheet.

All honest collectors should make it a point to let their brother collectors know of these frauds wherever found, and do all in their power to rid the fraternity of the pests. Ours should be an honest brotherhood.

How do you mount your stamps in your albums? This is an important question. The writer pasted the stamps in solid in his first album, and when he wanted to remove them a few months afterward, couldn't do it, and sold the entire lot for a bag of marbles and a second-hand silver watch that wouldn't go.

He learned wisdom, however, by the transaction, and his next collection was mounted in a very laborious manner. On each square in the album, where a stamp was to be placed, a norrow strip of stout paper was carefully gummed at each end, in the manner shown in the accompanying illustration, the large square representing the space in the album and the small black squares showing where the narrow strip was gummed down.

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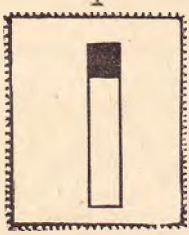
Then another narrow strip of paper was gummed to the back of the stamp, as shown in the second figure, one end only being fastened. The loose end of this slip was tucked through the space in the slip in the album and the stamp was mounted. Once prepared, it was quite a satisfactory way, as the stamp could always be removed for examination or the substitution of a better specimen; but the labor of preparing the album



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and stamps was so great that when, after a year, the collection was sold and a new one started, the hinge system was adopted as being the easiest and most satisfactory, all things considered.

In this third collection the small hinges were of gummed paper, cut one inch long by one-fourth inch wide, folded in the middle with the gummed side out, one end was fastened to the top of each stamp and the other end to the space allotted the stamp in the album.

Mounted in this way the stamp could be easily examined for water marks, etc., or could be taken out and a better specimen substituted at any time.

If the collector has plenty of time, the method of mounting illustrated will be found satisfactory, but for the average collector the last mentioned is the best.

The gummed hinge can be had of most dealers (the publisher of THE TEXAS STAMP offers a package to every subscriber) at a very low price, or the gummed paper can be bought at any large printing office, and the mounts made at home.

Look out for counterfeits, and never put a bogus stamp in your album, and give a wide berth ever after to any dealer who palms off the bogus trash on you.

HEN. CHROMDIN.

MY EXPERIENCE AS A COLLECTOR.

I believe that it was in the fall of 1884 when I first commenced stamp collecting. I was going to school in a certain city and among the boy students were several stamp collectors.

One day in school I saw several of the boys handling some postage stamps and asking them what they were doing, one of them told me that they were exchanging stamps, and he showed me a few unused ones which "took my eye." While standing there one of the boys threw a handful out of the window and I, after watching to see where they fell, went out and carefully picked them every one up and from that moment I resolved that I would be a collector.

Staying all night with one of the boys a few days later I saw him produce what he called an "Approval Sheet," that he had received that day from a New York dealer, and proceed to take some stamps from it. On my questioning him he explained to me the use of approval sheets, and as the dealer requested him to send the names of some collectors to whom he might send sheets, my friend sent my name and in about ten days I received my first approval sheet.

Getting hold of a stamp paper one day I sat down and answered every advertisement it contained, and in about two weeks I began to receive more mail than my father did. I had been by this time collecting about two months and had about one hundred varieties and some five or six hundred duplicates, and the whole mixture never cost me more than fifteen or twenty-five cents.

I exchanged regularly with the collectors at school and it was not long (about three months) before I had a better collection than any of them. I carried all of my unused stamps in my pocket in a small blank book, hinged in rows of four, and when I exchanged or sold any I disposed of no less than a row at one time.

One day one of the boys showed me some "rare Confederate locals," and offered me a New Orleans and Baton Rouge local for 5 cents. I knew nothing about Confederate locals, but as these were guaranteed genuine by him I bought them, but had no sooner paid him when he told them that they were counterfeits and that he had bought "100 for 15 cents." I had nothing more to do with that boy in the stamp line, though I did get even with him by selling him two Macau for 25 cents, which I had cut out of a stamp paper.

Seeing an advertisement of a wholesale dealer who sent his wholesale list "free to dealers only," I had me a rubber stamp made, and stamping my rubber stamp on the postal card, sent for his list. When it came I sent for $1.00 worth of stamps, and sold them for about ten times what they cost me. I suddenly conceived the idea of becoming a dealer and sent a half inch "ad." to *Our American Youth* and got one agent therefrom (who, however, proved to be the best that I ever had). JUNIOR.

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THE TEXAS STAMP.

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A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Published by THOMAS P. MARTIN, JR. Edited by HEN. CHROMDIN.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One inch, each insertion	$ 50
Two inches, each insertion	90
Three inches, each insertion	1 25
Half column, each insertion	1 40
One column, each insertion	2 75
One page, each insertion	5 00

TERMS—Cash in advance. Special rates on standing advertisements.

George H. Richmond, No. 5 Beekman street, New York, has this paper on file and is authorized to make contracts for the same.

Entered as second-class matter at Fort Worth Postoffice

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

A new set of U. S. envelopes is announced to appear this month.

Slight changes have been made in the stamps of Bulgaria and Labuan.

"Wanderer" has become associate editor itor of the *Stamp Collector's Figaro.*

It is stated that Mr. C. B. Hill, the Guatamala dealer, has located in Chicago.

While reviewing our paper please do not fail to look over the advertisements.

Gentlemen, don't be bashful. Send in your 15 cents for a year's subscription.

The Cumberland *Collector* has turned its subscription list over to the Denver *Stamp.*

We have two Southern collectors—one at Hickory, Miss., and the other at Duskegels, Ala.

Gibraltar has a new ½d. wrapper, a new 2d. registered envelope, and a new 1s. adhesive.

Sterling's new catalogue of U. S. stamps is out. An addition to this catalogue is a list of locals compiled by Dr. W. H. Mitchell.

The publishers of the *Texas Philatelist* have refunded the money to each of their subscribers.

Envelopes and cards have been prepared for the Faridkote state to take the place of the surcharged India ones.

Changes, either of color or design, have been made in the cards of Antigua, Barbadoes and Hong Kong.

A Canadian dealer states it his belief that there are more than 10,000 stamp and coin collectors in the provinces.

We have received price list from Chas. Enders & Co., W. F. Greaney and J. T. Tchakidji. Many thanks, gentlemen.

Mr. Jno. L. Terrell, corner Main and First streets, of this city, would be pleased to receive price lists, stamps, papers, etc.

Mr. Jno. L. Ward, of this city, sold an 1804 dollar to some parties in Philadelphia for $750. We shall endeavor to obtain the history of it.

An entire new series of stamps is now in use by Bolivia, rouletted and of the '71 type, with eleven stars, 1c. lake, 2c. purple, 5c. blue, 10c orange.

According to the best of our knowledge and belief the collectors and "dealers" of Salem, Mass., are a hard crowd. We would like to hear from one in particular.

The Germantown *Philatelist* has changed hands and is now published by Wm. M. Watson. This, we suppose, is because Mr. Von Utassy is soon to travel in Europe.

A new official stamp, 10c. orange, has been issued by Costa Rica, which Mr. Durbin thinks is one of a complete series. Arms in center with "Services Postal Del Salvador" above.

At the recent vote of the members of the American Philatelic Association the *Philatelic Journal of America* was selected as the official organ, that paper having 79 votes out of a total of 174. The *Western Philatelist* was second, with 59 votes.

The *Stamp Collector's Figaro* for May has an interesting article on State Revenues. A little carelessness in proof-reading is observed here and there in this paper. How-

ever, as mistakes have been found in the TEXAS STAMP it may not be good manners for us to criticise so good a paper. Thanks for kind notice, Brother Voute.

Mr. E. W. Roberts, of the Eureka Stamp Co., will soon leave Paris on a pleasure trip through the North.

In answer to numerous requests for numbers 1 and 2 of TEXAS STAMP we will say that we are unable to supply either, as there was only 400 of No. 1 issued all of which were sent out, and of No. 2, 800 were issued and all of them were sent out. We will give a year's subscription for every copy of No. 1 sent us.

We would like to receive more encourgaement from advertisers, but we are going to issuo our paper if we have to do so without any advertisements at all.

Do you think that the TEXAS STAMP is worth 15 cents a year? If you do not some one else does, so don't be uneasy. Say, send us 15 cents for a years subscription.

The newest on our exchange list are Sunday Mirror, Texas Advertiser, Picturesque Erie and Brooksfield Courier. Though they are not stamp journals we shall be pleased to exchange with them.

That newspaper reporter is abroad in the land again, and announces that he has discovered over 12,000 stamp collectors in the schools of New York city. He makes us weary, he does, and should be muzzled until the hot weather is past.

China is about to remodel her postal service, and will soon become a member of the Universal Postal Union. At present all postal communication between that country and the United States is by means of postal agencies established at Shanghai and other ports by our government. A letter recently received by the writer from Shanghai was prepaid by two United States five-cent stamps, and also bore a hand stamp reading "Postal Agency, Shanghai," with date of mailing.

We have been asked to give an opinion of THE TEXAS STAMP, but for two reasons we must decline. 1st. While in Fort Worth three years ago we were so badly handled by certain little bad smelling insects in our bed that we vowed never to meddle with anything from there again. 2d. The *Stamp World* was induced to make some humorous remarks that raised its Texas ire, and now the *World* "lies mouldering in its grave." We might say, however, that our Lillipution friend is improving.—*Fraser, in the American Philatelist.*

"Lillipution" is pretty good, Brother Fraser, considering the fact that THE TEXAS STAMP is just about the same size as our critic's paper. By the way, we understand that the *A. P.* has also been consigned to its "mouldering grave." Had a bad effect trying to be funny at our expense.

PREMIUM OFFER TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Extra Inducements Offered to the First Twenty-Five New Subscribers.

The past month has not been a remarkably lively one at the office of this paper. We have received some subscriptions, mingled with quantities of good advice. This latter we have offered for deposit at our bank, but they decline to allow us to draw checks against it.

That the TEXAS STAMP is giving satisfaction to those who have subscribed, we are bound to believe, because we have received many complimentary letters. We are in no wise discouraged, and yet we do want to see our subscription list increasing more rapidly. Fifteen cents is but a small sum, and we are honest in the belief that we can give our readers more than their money's worth.

We continue our offer of premiums as follows:

To every person sending 15 cents for a year's subscription before July 1st, we offer the following premiums:

A package of Stamp Mounts.

10 varieties of Foreign Stamps.

5 varieties of Unused Foreign Stamps.

Send a two cent stamp for return postage, in addition to the 15 cents for subscription, and the premium will be promptly sent.

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☞ Send 2c stamp for sample STAMP-PHOTO and price per 100.

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How dear to my heart is the elegant rooster,
Old Public Opinion, we all know so well,
Who lifts up his voice when the people are tickled,
And crows when his tidings are joyful to tell.

CHORUS—The dooster, the booster,
The bouncing old rooster,
The bully old rooster with tidings to tell.

Now lately this rooster has taken to crowing,
For March & Price and the goods that they sell,
Dry Goods and Clothing, Hats, Caps and Shoething,
Dress Goods and Notions that are too cheap to tell.

CHORUS—Then, hurrah for the rooster,
The bouncing old booster,
The bully old rooster with tidings to tell.

I. C. BARGAINS,
Advertiser for March & Price,
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Circulars free, or with 100 Foreign Stamps for 5c. if you name this paper. Best exchange prices paid for old U. S. Stamps. Copy Collector's Aid for stamp. 500 good, mixed stamps, to trade with, 25c. 100 choice varieties, 25c. 4 Brazil, 5c.; 3 Japan, 5c.; 3 Egypt, 5c.; 8 Spain, 5c.; 3 New Zealand, 5c.; 3 Cape Good Hope, 5c. The six sets, 25c. Flags of all nations, 25c.; Coats of Arms, 50c.; Portraits, 50c. The three, $1.00.

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10 var. U. S. Dollars, 1798	8 00
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10 var. U. S. half-cents, including 1825	65
10 var. U. S. 3 cent pieces	75
10 var. Confederate notes	1 25
10 var. Fractional currency	3 00
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10 var. Unused post. stamps	25
100 Used stamps, well mixed	1 00
1000 Used stamps, common	50

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Mexico, N. Y.

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No. 3, 15 var	20c
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No. 5, 10 mix	8c
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